

of the Press Secretary on January 2. In his address, the President referred to King Abdallah bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia; King Abdullah II of Jordan; President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak of Egypt; President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) and Prime Minister Salam Fayyad of the Palestinian Authority; Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel; and President-elect Barack Obama. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Presidential Determination on
Waiver of Reimbursement Under the
United Nations Participation Act to
Support the United Nations/African
Union Mission in Darfur**

January 1, 2009

Presidential Determination No. 2009–10

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Waiver of Reimbursement Under the United Nations Participation Act to Support the United Nations/African Union Mission in Darfur

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 10(d)(1) of the United Nations Participation Act of 1945, as amended (22 U.S.C. 287e–2(d)(1)), I hereby determine that provision of assistance to the United Nations/African Union Mission in Darfur to support the airlift of equipment for peacekeeping in Darfur without reimbursement from the United Nations is important to the security interests of the United States.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 12, 2009]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 5, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 13.

**Remarks Following a Meeting With
First Vice President of Sudan and
President of Southern Sudan Salva
Kiir Mayardit**

January 5, 2009

President Bush. I'm proud to be meeting again with the Vice President of Sudan. He's a friend of mine. He is a strong leader who is dealing with a very difficult situation.

We talked about two important subjects. One is the north-south agreement in Sudan. It's a vital agreement, and it's going to be very important for the United States to pay attention to the implementation of this agreement. And the Vice President brought me up to date on what has been accomplished and what still remains to be accomplished.

And I thank you for, one, your clear briefing, but also your leadership on this important issue.

And then the Vice President and I discussed Darfur. And he has taken the lead in helping the rebels come together so that there would be a more unified voice in negotiating a—hopefully, negotiating a peace with the Bashir Government.

I informed the Vice President that I have provided a waiver to the State Department so they can begin to move 240 containers worth of heavy equipment into Darfur, and that the Defense Department will be flying Rwanda equipment into Darfur to help facilitate the peacekeeping missions there.

So I want to thank you very much for coming back. It's good to be with you. He asked me whether or not I was going to still care about Sudan—after all, the north-south agreement was negotiated under my watch—and my answer is, absolutely, Mr. Vice President.

Finally, I've been—Secretary Rice was just here, and prior to Vice President's arrival we did talk about Gaza. I've been closely monitoring the situation in Gaza. I understand Israel's desire to protect itself, and that the situation now taking place in Gaza was caused by Hamas. Instead of caring about the people of Gaza, Hamas decided to use Gaza to launch rockets to kill innocent Israelis. And Israel has obviously decided to protect herself and her people.